

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, December 19, 2005 at 4:30pm at Morton Community Center.

Present at said meeting were Paula Woods, Leon Trachtman, Garnet Peck, Mike Dana, Nancy Offutt, and Attorney John Sorensen. Joe Payne, Pennie Ainsworth, Chris Foley, Lee Booth, Brenda Lorenz, Cheryl Kolb and Brian Tunis represented the Department. Mayor Mills was present along with Council members Gil Satterly and Ann Hunt. Absent was Council member Gerry Keen.

Paula convened the Board at 4:35 pm.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the minutes of the November 21, meeting. Mike motioned the minutes be approved as corrected. Garnet seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Superintendent – Joe reported on the following:

- Joe noted the Council Report was included in the mailing.
- The Foundation received a check from John Taylor for \$10,000 to the Mildred R. Taylor memorial, which will be used for nature education items associated with the nature area and nature center.
- Joe noted we have entered into a design contract with Stu Kline for Tapawingo Park, for redevelopment of the west plaza on the Myers Bridge and for the development of an outdoor entertainment venue, for \$45,000 from EDIT Consulting.
- Noted we have entered into a contract with Wahl Architecture for window and mechanical study at Morton Center in the amount \$14,680 also from EDIT Consulting.
- Joe ordered, "Cat Tails" to be installed in a natural fall zone that matches the footpath that comes off the north end of the Cattail Trail by Lilly Nature Center.

Assistant Superintendent – Pennie reported on the following:

- The new playground equipment for Lommel and Tapawingo was delivered today.
- Showed drawing on the new playground equipment that will be installed in Tapawingo Park.
- The Indiana Park and Recreation Associations annual conference will be held next month, January 17 – 19 in Indianapolis. She passed around a copy of the agenda to see if any Park Board members were interested in attending.

Parks – Lee reported on the following:

- Noted inspections are available.
- Working on equipment
- Reconditioning park signs
- Organizing the maintenance shop
- Snow removal

Recreation – Chris reported on the following:

- Third grade basketball will begin on Monday, November 28th. Forty-one children are enrolled. The program will resume after the holiday break.
- Approximately 3,700 winter/spring brochures were mailed to those on our mailing list. The winter/spring brochure contains programs that will be offered from January through April. Mailed in registrations are being accepted. Walk-in and call-in registration will begin Friday, January 6th.
- Skate with Santa was held on Saturday morning, December 17th. Forty people enjoyed donuts, hot chocolate and skating with Santa.
- First day of shelter reservations for 2006 will be on Tuesday, January 3.

Morton Center –Brenda reported on the following:

- Brenda introduced Marianne Gaio, the new administrative assistant at Morton.
- The final registration total for the fall session was 1,340, compared to last year's 1,792, a decrease of 25%. The registration total for 2005 is 4,308 compared to last year's annual 5,149. That is a decrease of 16% for the year.
- We have 44 instructors teaching at Morton next semester, 7 of them new. There is a variety of classes available for adults and children.
- Morton will be closed from December 23 through January 2, and will reopen on January 3.

Beautification & Stewardship – Brian reported on the following:

- Continue to work on the invasive species and brush removal.
- Coordinated the new landscape installation at Tapawingo Park and trail extension along Kent & Cumberland.
- Continue working with "Wednesdays in the Wild" planning committee on scheduling programs for January and February.
- Working on replacing some Adopt-a-spot signs from recent vehicle accidents.
- Helped unload the new playground equipment.

Old Business**Community and Nature Centers Holiday Period Closing**

Joe commented that Morton and Lilly would be closed over the holiday break. No complaints have been received in the past.

New Business**2006 Meeting Dates**

The Board approved the dates for the 2006 Park Board meetings.

Park Board Attorney Agreement

Joe presented John Sorenson's agreement to be the Board's Attorney. Mike made a motion to approve the agreement. Garnet seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

2006 Part-Time Salaries

Chris presented the Part-time salaries summary noting that the only changes are an increase for lifeguards and umpires. Mike made a motion to approve the part-time salary rates. Lee seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

North West Soccer Club Use Agreement

Pennie presented the request from the NWSC for use of the Cumberland Park soccer fields from March 10 to June 3, 2006; practices are Monday – Friday from 2 pm to dusk and Saturdays from 8 am to dusk. Mike motioned to approve the Use Agreement. Garnet seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Shelter Reservation Fees

Chris presented a request to increase shelter fees next year by \$5. Garnet motioned to increase the fees. Mike seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

West Lafayette School Board

Nancy reported that the Board voted to outsource their custodian positions. Plan to move the band equipment into the band room the week of January 2. The paper work for the West Lafayette School Education Foundation has been filed. Letters will be sent out asking for contributions.

Wabash River

Mike noted that a presentation by the Landscape Architect class took place with six different groups giving their design ideas on ways to enhance the Levee area along the river. The enhancement corporation does not meet until January.

Others

Joe presented a proposal for a memorial plaque and boulder in Happy Hollow Park from John Pezzuto, Dean of Pharmacy & Nursing at Purdue University, in memory of Claire and Nathan Hockerman. Discussion followed as to keep within the Department's philosophy, suggesting a living memorial, possibly with a bench with a plaque would be more appropriate. The Department and Board want to prevent memorial "stone markers" from being spread throughout the parks over time. Joe will convey the Board's suggestions to the Dean.

Purchase Orders

Joe presented a purchase order for a semi-truck load of Trex boards, the material used for the deck at Lilly Nature Center, for \$32,781.60 (2,320 pieces). It will be used for two overlooks for wildlife viewing in Celery Bog and for trail bridges, especially the ones in the Michaud-Sinninger Woods. It is a non-slip surface that will last virtually forever. Funds would come from the Cum-Cap Development Park Improvements appropriation, the Park Board Improvement Account and the Celery Bog non-reverting account. Mike made a motion to accept the purchase order. Leon seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Joe presented a proposal for the fountain, as discussed previously, to be placed at the west end of the Myers Bridge, for up to and not to exceed \$50,000 from the Wabash Funds to Hall Fountains. The Board expressed their concern with the safety and maintenance of the fountain, and Joe stated he would work with the manufacturers and designers to address those concerns as much as possible. Leon motioned to approve the purchase order. Garnet seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Cheryl presented purchase orders for a color laser-jet printer, cabinet and Xccent Playground piece so the money can be encumbered (the purchases were made using the Department credit card). She also presented a purchase order for three new Dell computers in the amount of \$3,347.10 and one to NetLink to install the new printer and computers for \$977.50. Garnet motioned to approve the purchase order. Mike seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Pay Claims

Mike motioned for claims to be paid. Garnet seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Ann Hunt showed a copy of the certificate of appreciation that was presented to Larry Oates at the last council meeting for his work with the Sagamore West Farmers Market.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Presiding Officer

Secretary